

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06551 310806Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SSM-03 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /074 W
-----049635 311505Z /41

R 301148Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6306
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6551

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP SY IZ LE PLO
SUBJ: RUMORS OF IRAQI-SYRIAN RAPPROCHEMENT

1. LEFTIST BEIRUT DAILY AS SAFIR DECEMBER 29 REPORTS
FROM "WELL INFORMED ARAB SOURCES" THAT IRAQI GOVERNMENT IS
TRYING TO MOVE CLOSER TO STEADFASTNESS FRONT OF TRIPOLI
CONFERENCE ARAB STATES. PAPER SAYS IRAQI PRESIDENT EL
BAKER HAS SENT MESSAGES TO SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD AND TO
PLO LEADER ARAFAT "CALLING FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW
SYRIAN-IRAQI-PALESTINIAN ALLIANCE." STORY SAYS SOVIETS
HAVE PLAYED ROLE IN THIS EFFORT.

2. REUTERS CORRESPONDENT GAVIN BELL TOLD EMBOFF DECEMBER 28
THAT HE TOLD BY PLO UNIFIED INFORMATION BUREAU CHIEF MAJID
ABU SHARAR, WHOM BELL DESCRIBES AS CLOSE TO BOTH THE SYRIANS
AND THE IRAQIS, THAT ALGERIAN PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENNE WOULD
BE VISITING BAGHDAD IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO TEST IRAQI INTENTIONS.
IF IRAQ WILL MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH STEADFASTNESS FRONT
STATES, THEN NEXT SUMMIT MEETING OF FRONT, NOW PRO-
JECTED FOR FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JANUARY, WOULD BE HELD IN
BAGHDAD. OTHERWISE, IT WOULD BE HELD IN ALGIERS.
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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 06551 310806Z

3. COMMENT: WE DEFER TO DAMASCUS AND BAGHDAD ON
VALIDITY OF THESE STORIES. ON BASIS OF OUR GENERAL
KNOWLEDGE OF SYRIAN-IRAQI RELATIONS, WE VERY SCEPTICAL
OF POSSIBILITY OF EVEN A TACTICAL IRAQI RAPPROCHEMENT
AT THIS TIME.
PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BEIRUT06551
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780004-0647
Format: TEL
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 216151
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RUMORS OF IRAQI-SYRIAN RAPPROCHEMENT
TAGS: PDIP, SY, IZ, LE, XF, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1e89e002-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009